

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A method of supplying a dampening solution for an offset printing machine comprising the steps of:
detecting a viscosity of a dampening solution ~~at a normal temperature,~~

selectively adding ~~at least~~ water and a surface active agent to the dampening solution so as to obtain a treated dampening solution with an aimed viscosity value ~~of the dampening solution,~~
~~and~~

supplying the treated dampening solution having the aimed viscosity value to ~~[[an]] the~~ offset printing machine ~~at the normal temperature, and~~

further adding a viscosity increasing agent to the treated dampening solution to increase the viscosity to the aimed viscosity value when the treated dampening solution is increased in temperature, the temperature increase causing the viscosity to decrease below the aimed viscosity value.

2. (currently amended) A method of supplying a dampening solution for an offset printing machine comprising the steps of:
detecting a viscosity of a dampening solution ~~at a normal~~

~~temperature,~~

selectively adding ~~at least~~ water, a surface active agent and a viscosity increasing agent to the dampening solution so as to obtain a treated dampening solution with an aimed viscosity value of the dampening solution, and

supplying the dampening solution having the aimed viscosity value to ~~[[an]] the~~ offset printing machine ~~at the normal temperature, and~~

further adding the viscosity increasing agent to the treated dampening solution to increase the viscosity to the aimed viscosity value when the treated dampening solution is increased in temperature, the temperature increase causing the viscosity to decrease below the aimed viscosity value.

3. (currently amended) A method of supplying a dampening solution for an offset printing machine comprising the steps of:

detecting a viscosity of a dampening solution ~~at a normal temperature,~~

selectively adding ~~at least~~ water, an etchant and a viscosity increasing agent to the dampening solution so as to obtain a treated dampening solution with an aimed pH value and an aimed viscosity value of the dampening solution, and

supplying the treated dampening solution having the aimed pH value and the aimed viscosity value to ~~[[an]] the~~ offset printing machine ~~at the normal temperature, and~~

further adding the viscosity increasing agent to the treated dampening solution to increase the viscosity to the aimed viscosity value when the treated dampening solution is increased in temperature, the temperature increase causing the viscosity to decrease below the aimed viscosity value.

4. (previously presented) The method of supplying a dampening solution for an offset printing machine according to claim 1, wherein the dampening solution is additionally supplied to the offset printing machine by an amount corresponding to a consumed amount thereof through one-way manner.

5. (currently amended) An apparatus for supplying a dampening solution for an offset printing machine comprising: a mixing tank for adjusting a dampening solution ~~at a normal temperature~~, a viscosity measuring unit for measuring a viscosity of the dampening solution in the mixing tank, an adding unit for selectively adding ~~at least~~ water and a surface active agent to the dampening solution in the mixing tank so as to obtain a treated dampening solution with an aimed viscosity value, and a supply unit for supplying the treated dampening solution having the aimed viscosity value to ~~[[an]] the~~ offset printing machine ~~at the normal temperature,~~

wherein the adding unit further adds a viscosity increasing agent to the treated dampening solution to increase the

viscosity to the aimed viscosity value when the treated dampening solution is increased in temperature, the temperature increase causing the viscosity to decrease below the aimed viscosity value.

6. (currently amended) An apparatus for supplying a dampening solution for an offset printing machine comprising: a mixing tank for adjusting a dampening solution ~~at a normal temperature~~, a viscosity measuring unit for measuring a viscosity of the dampening solution in the mixing tank, an adding unit for selectively adding ~~at least~~ water, a surface active agent and a viscosity increasing agent to the dampening solution in the mixing tank so as to obtain a treated dampening solution with an aimed viscosity value, and a supply unit for supplying the treated dampening solution having the aimed viscosity value to ~~[[an]] the~~ offset printing machine ~~at the normal temperature~~,

wherein the adding unit further adds the viscosity increasing agent to the treated dampening solution to increase the viscosity to the aimed viscosity value when the treated dampening solution is increased in temperature, the temperature increase causing the viscosity to decrease below the aimed viscosity value.

7. (currently amended) An apparatus for supplying a dampening solution for an offset printing machine comprising: a mixing tank for adjusting a dampening solution ~~at a normal temperature~~, a pH concentration measuring unit for measuring pH

value of the dampening solution in the mixing tank, a viscosity measuring unit for measuring a viscosity of the dampening solution in the mixing tank, an adding unit for selectively adding ~~at least~~ water, an etchant and a viscosity increasing agent to the dampening solution in the mixing tank so as to obtain a treated dampening solution with an aimed pH value and an aimed viscosity value, and a supply unit for supplying the treated dampening solution having the aimed pH value and the aimed viscosity value to ~~[[an]] the~~ offset printing machine ~~at the normal temperature,~~

wherein the adding unit further adds the viscosity increasing agent to the treated dampening solution to increase the viscosity to the aimed viscosity value when the treated dampening solution is increased in temperature, the temperature increase causing the viscosity to decrease below the aimed viscosity value.

8. (previously presented) The apparatus for supplying a dampening solution for an offset printing machine according to claim 5, wherein the supply unit for supplying the dampening solution to the offset printing machine is provided with a one-way conduit connecting the mixing tank to a dampening fountain, a water-level meter for detecting water-level of the dampening solution in the dampening fountain, and a valve for additionally supplying the dampening solution to the dampening fountain by opening the one-way conduit in response to a signal from the water-level meter.

9. (previously presented) The apparatus for supplying a dampening solution for an offset printing machine according to claim 6, wherein the supply unit for supplying the dampening solution to the offset printing machine is provided with a one-way conduit connecting the mixing tank to a dampening fountain, a water-level meter for detecting water-level of the dampening solution in the dampening fountain, and a valve for additionally supplying the dampening solution to the dampening fountain by opening the one-way conduit in response to a signal from the water-level meter.

10. (previously presented) The apparatus for supplying a dampening solution for an offset printing machine according to claim 7, wherein the supply unit for supplying the dampening solution to the offset printing machine is provided with a one-way conduit connecting the mixing tank to a dampening fountain, a water-level meter for detecting water-level of the dampening solution in the dampening fountain, and a valve for additionally supplying the dampening solution to the dampening fountain by opening the one-way conduit in response to a signal from the water-level meter.

11. (currently amended) The method of supplying a dampening solution for an offset printing machine according to claim 2, wherein the dampening solution is additionally supplied to

the offset printing machine by an amount corresponding to a consumed amount thereof through a one-way manner.

12. (currently amended) The method of supplying a dampening solution for an offset printing machine according to claim 3, wherein the dampening solution is additionally supplied to the offset printing machine by an amount corresponding to a consumed amount thereof through a one-way manner.

13. (new) The method of supplying a dampening solution for an offset printing machine according to claim 1, wherein the aimed viscosity value is at least 1.3 poise.

14. (new) The method of supplying a dampening solution for an offset printing machine according to claim 2, wherein the aimed viscosity value is at least 1.3 poise.

15. (new) The apparatus for supplying a dampening solution for an offset printing machine according to claim 3, wherein the aimed viscosity value is at least 1.3 poise.

16. (new) The apparatus for supplying a dampening solution for an offset printing machine according to claim 5, wherein the aimed viscosity value is at least 1.3 poise.

17. (new) The apparatus for supplying a dampening solution for an offset printing machine according to claim 6, wherein the aimed viscosity value is at least 1.3 poise.

18. (new) The apparatus for supplying a dampening solution for an offset printing machine according to claim 7, wherein the aimed viscosity value is at least 1.3 poise.